



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Metropolitan Boston – Northeast Regional Office

cc: *AJ Lussier*
G. Irizarry
E Heskett
R Cavanaugh
D McIntyre

ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI
Governor

RECEIVED

BOB DURAND
Secretary

JANE SWIFT
Lieutenant Governor

JUN 03 1999

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

MAY 27 1999

LAUREN LISS
Commissioner

John P. DeVillars, Regional Administrator
EPA New England Region I
1 Congress Street Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114-2023

A Kaufman
P M. Kasey
Corresp



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Dear Mr. DeVillars:

I wish to express my appreciation on behalf of the Department's Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup in the Northeast Region for the assistance of EPA's Removal Action Program in addressing a time critical situation at the former American Glue and Resin site in Middleton.

Members of my staff contacted AmyJean Lussier of EPA's Removal Action Program late last year to request EPA assistance to characterize, remove and properly dispose of over 500 drums of hazardous materials and wastes that had been abandoned at the site. The company had gone out of business several years ago, and the property owner had passed away; the owner's widow, who currently owns the property, was reportedly unable to fund the removal of the wastes left on-site. These wastes posed a potentially serious threat to the health and safety of local residents.

EPA officials promptly evaluated site conditions, and determined that a time-critical removal action was necessary to prevent the release of hazardous substances to the environment. EPA's On-Scene Coordinator, Gilberto Irizarry, immediately arranged for the appropriate personnel and equipment to be brought to the scene to ensure that the situation was stabilized and the wastes were removed in a safe, effective, and expeditious manner. Mr. Irizarry and Erin Heskett, EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator, met frequently with DEP representatives, Middleton Town officials, and local residents to ensure that all were kept fully informed of the progress of the removal action.

EPA's rapid response by competent and experienced people left DEP and members of the community with a sense of relief and comfort that a potentially serious environmental threat has been addressed. Again, thank you and the staff of the Removal Action Program for your continued assistance.

Yours truly,

Richard J. Chalpin
Regional Engineer for the
Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup